of disconnected items? I gave it up. Now Mc. dont you get somebody to ask the same about me.

H. R. HOLSINGER.

South Bend, Ind., June 17.

Indiana Items.

Owing to some little delay in the seating of the church at Oakville, the dedication will take place the 4th Sunday in July, instead of the 1st.

The little series of meetings held at Bracken recently resulted in 5 additions by baptism, 1 by confession for baptism, and a few more said they would unite ere long. The last one baptized took me to the train at North Manchester, and like Philip and the eunuch, we both went down into the water (Eel River) and he was baptized and went home rejoicing.

The Brethren held a glorious communion in the Salem church, Burlington congregation, in Carroll Co., the evening of the 18th. The membership was well represented at the table, and the balance of the house was well filled with earnest lookers on. The order was excellent, we never witnessed a more quiet and orderly communion. God bless the brethren at Salem.

Bro. B. L. Gordon preached at the Salem church last Lord's day, and the writer tried to preach at Edna Mills in the evening.

Yes, it is true that R. F. Mallott "skipped out." Guess he went to hunt for J. W. Stein.

Many wonder what is to be done at the September convention. Well, I hardly know, perhaps we will adopt the new name "Progressives" as a legal church name, or reaffirm and establish the resolution passed at the Dayton convention, i. e. to forever drop the former names such as Progressive and Congregational, and hereafter be known and know each other as the Brethren church." This might be the principal object of the convention.

I think however, we have need to be better organized for general work.

The Brethren, German Baptists and German Reformed churches will erect a house of worship at the grave yard on the old homestead, in Miami Co., near Roann soon. When we last heard from there near $1400 had been raised for the purpose, and the trustees were to be appointed that day, and other necessary arrangements were to be made to push the work to completion. This is something new under the sun again. It is as it should be nevertheless.

There will be at least three, and possibly four Brethren churches dedicated during the coming month (July) in central Ind. The work is moving, to God be all the glory.

I left home last Tuesday and came to Auburn, at the request of our zealous brother, A. J. Carmer, to tell the story in this city a few days, but was too sick with headache to preach. The Methodist minister of this place kindly conducted the service said evening. We talked to small but interesting congregations Wednesday and Thursday evenings, and will continue over next Lord's day.

Brother D. Rittenhouse, of Kunkle, Ohio, is here at present trying to complete arrangements to have some meetings held in Northern Ohio and Southern Michigan. Don't know how he will succeed.

Some have become confused about my post office address. It is Rossville, Clinton Co., Ind. I have not changed it for a whole year.

J. H. SWIHART.

Falls City Items.

The reaper death, has again made inroads into the flock of believers at this place. The friends and relatives of Michael Meyers, of Wilsey, Kansas, were apprised of his sudden death, and his funeral was preached at the Silver Creek meeting house for the consolation of his friends here, who could not attend his funeral at Wilsey. His invalid son, Abram, preceded him to the spirit land only two days.

The deceased leaves a widow, and a large family of children, and many relatives to mourn their loss. His aged mother, two brothers, and three sisters live in this church.

The funeral of the young man, Oliver Messler, was largely attended by mourning relatives and sympathizing friends.

Bro. Messler had previous to the division in the church, here, made the good confession of faith, and was baptized into Christ; but during the division he became somewhat cold and indifferent to his Christian duties; but before his death, his faith was revived and he expressed the hope of the righteous and exhorted others similarly situated to renew their covenant vows with the blessed Redeemer.

Last Friday, Bro. A. Chrisamore, of Everest, Brown Co., Kan., came to Falls City in search of a minister to baptize his son who is on a bed of affliction. He found a preacher, and on Saturday the gospel was preached at his house, and after the sermon the believing son was baptized. He is suffering with abcesses, and is physically quite weak but strong in the faith of a living Redeemer.

Bro. Chrisamore and Jacques and their families, with a few other Brethren, live here in this rich and beautiful country, without such church privileges as they would desire. They are hoping and praying for a dispensation of God's providence to bring about a change in their favor.

The German Baptists once had a foothold here, with good prospects of building up a flourishing church, with Elder Sawyer as their minister; but after the church was "Sawed" in two, neither party has had strength sufficient, so far, to carry on the work of rebuilding.

Elder Nicholson is more than holding the fort in Gage Co.; what is the church at Carleton doing by this time?

E. L. Y.

Blanco, Pa.

June 18.—On the 5th of June, at the regular meeting in the Redbank congregation, two were added to the number of the disciples by baptism. On the evening of the 11th, we commenced a meeting in the Cowenshannoc meeting house and continued until the 14th, at which time we had the privilege of enjoying another communion season together with Eld. J. W. Beer who officiated at this meeting. He is now visiting among us and preaching some. Bro. Beer is looking well and says his health is good. He is an able and fearless expounder of the gospel of Christ. May God bless him and give him many souls for his hire.

J. B. WAMPLER.

Hollidaysburg, Pa.

Our love feast was held Saturday, June 4th, at our church near Duncansville. Bro. Joseph Wilt, of Altoona, was with us. Two were baptized on Saturday before preaching. One was a girl, the other myself. I wanted to follow my Master in my youth, the age Jesus went about his Father's business. I felt happy when the day came. Bro. Joseph Wilt preached a very good sermon from Romans, 8: 9. Subject, "The Attainment of a Higher Life."

JASON A. G. STIFLER.

Calumny.

BY J. W. SMOUSE.

Inasmuch as there are slanderous reports in circulation and I receive whole bundles of letters inquiring as to the truth of said reports, I beg of you DEAR EVANGELIST to say to your many hearers that J. W. Smouse is not in the penitentiary neither has he eloped, but is in his field of labor respected and beloved by his parishioners and all except a few German Baptist Calumniators who delight in defaming the character of those who have the moral courage to expose their meanness and stand upon the platform of justice to all. And I want to say to the many friends that I shall by the help of God prove true until I lay down the cross and take up the crown.

Shakespeare wrote the truth when he penned these lines, viz.:

'Tis "Calumny,"
Whose edge is sharper than the sword;
Whose tongue outvenoms all the worms of Nile.
Maids, matrons, nay the secrets of the grave,
This viperous slander enters.

Calumny is the same envenomed scorpion, the same damning miasma, as it was when this master hand delineated its fiendish physiognomy. It sacrifices the high and low the living and the dead; but cursed propensity delights most in destroying worth and immolating innocence. Calumny affects fame, honor, worth and virtue.

The base, black-hearted, triple-tongued, cloven-footed calumniator like the loathsome worm leaves his path marked with the filth of malice and foam of falsehood, and pollutes the fairest flowers in the green-house of character. Living he is a traveling pest-house—dying impenitent his soul is too deeply stained for hell and should be driven to that imaginary elementless blank beyond the confines of all worlds shrouded in the darkness of nonentity there to roam alone through the ceaseless ages of eternity without a pain or pleasure to relieve the awful monotony of that dreadful vacuum. Oh reader never calumniate the name of another, sooner plunge a dagger through his or her heart. So deep does the calumniator (in my estimation) sink in the murky waters of degradation and infamy that could an angel apply an ARCHIMEDEAN moral lever to him with heaven for a fulcrum he could not in a thousand years raise him to the grade of a convicted felon.

Vinco, Pa.

The Problem Unsolved.

Bro. Edward Mason in last issue under the caption of "How to have more harmony" undertakes to criticise a few remarks which we made in a former article tending to show the need of more harmony in our teachings. The example given by us was not merely imaginary; we know, that such things have actually occured, and it was to show the inconsistency of brethren making their private views on those subjects so prominent, that caused us to give the illustration. It seems to me that the brother has, though unintentional perhaps, placed a wrong construction on my remarks, which we fear might leave the impression that we were in sympathy with creeds and councils, but such is not the case. After refering to the Roman Catholic and German Baptist churches, he says, "Let us profit by such experience, and not flirt with that which will only bring division. What does the brother mean? does he mean to intimate that my article savored of such? We have ever been opposed to brethren preaching their private views on matters concerning which the gospel is silent. However, we were not aware that the gospel was silent on the communion question, unless it be on the exclusive side.

We heartily acquiesce with the brother where he says, "God nor the church does not commission ministers to preach their private opinions but the gospel." But the question arises what is gospel? The trouble is when men preach their private opinions they preach them as gospel. The pedo-baptist will tell you that they are preaching the gospel when they preach sprinkling for baptism. But we do not believe that the gospel teaches more than one way of observing an ordinance. Hence we say again that one urgent need of our brotherhood is more harmony in its teachings and that too on the communion question. But how to get all our brethren to see alike is a question. We know from past experience that it cannot be done by legislation. Yes, "in union there is strength." The precedent we have in other orthodox churches that observe harmony in their teachings, and the success attending their united efforts should not be overlooked by us.

A. M. RIDENOUR.

Auburn, Ills.

The Convention.

The Convention should perform a very important work, and every member of the Brethren Church should engage in prayer that all things should be transacted according to the Word of God.

Dear brethren, be instant in season and out of season, to preach the truth and the whole truth, which brings in non-conformity to the world, so as to be a separate and peculiar people, that the world can see that we do not belong to it.

C. KLINE.

Church Dedication.

The time of the Pleasant Valley church dedication will be July 17th, 1887, at the hour of 10½ o'clock, a. m. We cordially invite every body to come. We expect some able preachers here.

O. H. CROUSE.

Cambria, Ind.

Bro. Editor:—I want to say to the brethren in Southern California, that I wish to open correspondence with them, the object of which is to hold a communion meeting, at the most convenient place, some time this fall. This call embraces all the scattered members as far North as San Louis, Obispo Co. Brethren in the East who have friends in Southern California, who are members will confer a favor on them and us by informing us of their address. Address me at post office box 426.

ELD. J. MYERS.

San Deigo, Cal.

The Lord willing the Brethren church will hold a love feast at the Olmstead school house, three and one half miles south east of Nickerson, Kansas, on Saturday evening, July 9th. Church meeting for council at 2 o'clock p. m. The usual invitation is extended to brethren from the adjoining congregations, and especially to ministers.

JACOB W. BEER.

Nickerson, Kansas.

The Home Mission Board of Ohio, will meet at Bro. D. J. Miller's, of Lattasburg, Wayne County, Ohio, at 7 p. m., July 16th, 1887. A full attendance of the Board is desired as there is important business to transact.

HENRY HOMAN.

Chatham, Ohio.

Bro. J. H. Swihart closed his services on the evening of the 5th, with five more additions and one applicant for baptism in the future. Several expressed themselves ready in the near future. We had a good meeting. Remember us at the throne of grace.

R. K. BINKLEY.

What is Preaching.

Words of wisdom and human philosophy is well enough in its way, but there are no substitutes for religion. They may do well enough on the lecture platform or in the philosopher's chair, but they will not do in the pulpit. A gospel preacher is not a lecturer. A minister who feels himself capable of demolishing Haeckel and Huxley, and Spencer, and Tyndall and Matthew Arnold all in one sermon—and there are lots of ministers who do feel competent for that task—may congratulate themselves that they have helped the Lord in a great crisis. Poor deluded souls! If the salvation of the church depended on the efforts of such poor egotist and pedants, the cause of Christ would have gone into obscurity centuries ago. The best way by which ministers can serve the Master and his cause is by preaching his word, and illustrating it by a consistent life.

If God has chosen your way, depend on it; it is the best that could be chosen. It may be rough; but it is right. It may be tedious; but it is safe.

"Do you see any reason for that dispensation?" "No; but I am as well satisfied as if I saw a thousand. God's will is the perfection of wisdom."

Married.

RINGLER-CLIPINEER.—By Rev. Wm. Kiefer, at the bride's residence, near Pleasant Home, Ohio, June 23rd, 1887, Mr. George W. Ringler and Cordillia Clipinger.

WM. KIEFER.